

**ST DOMINIC'S, DURSLEY**  
**&**  
**ST JOSEPH'S, NYMPSFIELD**

Parish Priest: Father Philip Thomas

St Dominic's Presbytery Jubilee Road Dursley GL11 4ES 01453 542039

Permanent Deacon: The Revd. Domenic Bucci

01453 542136

*Parish email:* [dursley.stdominic@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:dursley.stdominic@cliftondiocese.com)

*website:* [dursleynympsfieldrcparish.co.uk](http://dursleynympsfieldrcparish.co.uk)

*Parish priest email:* [philip.thomas@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:philip.thomas@cliftondiocese.com)

**SUNDAY 5 NOVEMBER 2023**  
**THIRTY FIRST SUNDAY OF THE YEAR**



Matthew's Church is thought to have included many Jewish Christians, who may not have believed that a break with the synagogue was necessary to be a follower of Jesus. Jesus tells the crowd that it is correct to do and observe what the scribes and Pharisees teach; it is their example that is to be avoided, namely, their love of being honoured and exalted. The warning Jesus gives against seeking places of honour in the community was directed as much toward the Christian community as the named Jewish leaders. Indeed, it is a warning that resonates with us today. Christian leadership is a call to service for the glory of God; those who would be leaders among us must, like Jesus, be servants of all.

Saturday 4 November St Charles Borromeo	3.30pm -4.00pm	Confessions	Dursley
SUNDAY OF THE YEAR XXXI Saturday 4 November Sunday 5 November	5.30pm 10.30am	Mass (Pro Populo) Mass (Donato Iatalesi & Guisepp Troiano RIP)	Nympsfeld Dursley
Tuesday 7 November St Willibrord of Utrecht	9.30am	Mass	Dursley
Wednesday 8 November All Saints of England	9.00am	Mass	Dursley
Thursday 9 November <i>LATERAN BASILICA Feast</i>	10.00am	Mass with School, Year 2	Nympsfeld
Friday 10 November St Leo the Great	<b>11.00</b>  6.00pm to 6.55pm 7.00pm	<b>Deanery Requiem for Deceased Clergy and Laity followed by coffee</b> Exposition & Confessions Mass	<b>Tuffley</b>  Dursley
Saturday 11 Nov . St Martin of Tours <i>Armistice Day</i>	<b>8.00am</b> No Confessions	<b>Mass</b> No Confessions	<b>Dursley</b>
O.S. XXXIIA REMEMBRANCE Saturday 11 November Sunday 12 November <b>Act of Remembrance at all weekend Masses</b>	5.30pm 10.30am  11.00am	Sunday Mass (Gerald Lockier RIP) <b>Requiem Mass for the War Dead followed by the Blessing of Graves Village Remembrance Service, followed by Blessing of Graves at St Joseph's</b>	Nympsfeld Dursley  Nympsfeld

*Café Dominic is open for refreshments each Sunday after the 10.30 Mass at Dursley*

### **Entrance Antiphon**

Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me! Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation.

### **Responsorial Psalm**

Keep my soul in peace before you, O Lord

### **Gospel Acclamation**

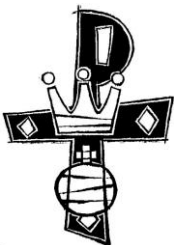
Speak, Lord, your servant is listening; you have the message of eternal life

### **Communion Antiphon**

You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord

### **Guidance for Worship**

You are strongly recommended to behave in a way that is respectful of the needs of others. Please remember that, although the Covid Crisis is behind us, sensible hygiene is still recommended.



### **POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR OCTOBER: FOR THE SYNOD**

We pray for the Church, that she may adopt listening and dialogue as a lifestyle at every level and allow herself to be guided by the Holy Spirit towards the peripheries of the world.

## A LETTER FROM CARDINAL PIERBATTISTA PIZZABALLA

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

We are going through one of the most difficult and painful periods in our recent times and history. We have been inundated with images of horrors, which have reawakened ancient traumas, opened new wounds, and made pain, frustration and anger explode within all of us. Much seems to speak of death and endless hatred. In all this uproar I feel the need to share with you a word that has its origin in the Gospel of Jesus. That is the starting point which we set out from, and return to, time and time again: a word from the Gospel to help us live this tragic moment by uniting our feelings with those of Jesus.

Looking to Jesus, of course, does not mean feeling exempt from the duty to speak, to denounce, to call out, as well as to console and encourage. My conscience and moral duty require me to state clearly that what happened on 7 October in southern Israel is in no way permissible and we cannot but condemn it. There is no reason for such an atrocity. Yes, we have a duty to state this and to denounce it. The use of violence is not compatible with the Gospel, and it does not lead to peace. The life of every human person has equal dignity before God, who created us all in His image.

The same conscience, however, with a great burden on my heart, leads me to state with equal clarity today that this new cycle of violence has brought to Gaza thousands of deaths, including many women and children, tens of thousands of wounded, neighbourhoods razed to the ground, lack of medicine, lack of water and of basic necessities for over two million people. These are tragedies that cannot be understood and which we have a duty to denounce and condemn unreservedly. The continuous heavy bombardment that has been pounding Gaza for days will only cause more death and destruction and will only increase hatred and resentment. It will not solve any problem, but rather create new ones. It is time to stop this war, this senseless violence.

It is only by ending decades of occupation and its tragic consequences, as well as giving a clear and secure national perspective to the Palestinian people that a serious peace process can begin. Unless this problem is solved at its root, there will never be the stability we all hope for. The tragedy of these days must lead us all, religious, political, civil society, international community, to a more serious commitment in this regard than what has been done so far.

Yet, I cannot live this extremely painful time without looking upward, without looking to Christ, without the faith that enlightens my view and yours on what we are experiencing, without turning our thoughts to God. We need a Word to accompany us, to comfort and encourage us. We need it like the air we breathe. "I have told you this so that you might have peace in me. In the world you will have tribulations, but take courage, I have conquered the world." (Jn. 16:33). We find ourselves on the eve of Jesus' Passion. He addresses these words to His disciples, who will shortly be tossed about, as if in a storm, before His death. They will panic, scatter and flee, like sheep without a shepherd.

It was on the cross that Jesus won: not with weapons, not with political power, not by great means, nor by imposing himself. The peace He speaks of has nothing to do with victory over others. He won the world by loving it. It is true that a new reality and a new order begin on the cross. The order and the reality of the one who gives his life out of love. With the Resurrection and the gift of the Spirit, that reality and that order belong to His disciples. To us. God's answer to the question of why the righteous suffer, is not an explanation, but a Presence. It is Christ on the cross.

To have the courage of love and peace here, today, means not allowing hatred, revenge, anger and pain to occupy all the space of our hearts, of our speech, of our thinking. It means making a personal commitment to justice, being able to affirm and denounce the painful truth of injustice and evil that surrounds us, without letting it pollute our relationships. It means being committed, being convinced that it is still worthwhile to do all we can for peace, justice, equality and reconciliation. Our speech must not be about death and closed doors.

I pray for us all, and in particular for the small community of Gaza, which is suffering most of all. In particular, our thoughts go out to the 18 brothers and sisters who perished recently, and to their families whom we know personally. Their pain is great, and yet with every passing day, I realise that they are at peace. They are scared, shaken, upset, but with peace in their hearts. We are all with them, in prayer and concrete solidarity, thanking them for their beautiful witness.

With sincere prayers for all,

**Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa** *Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem*



**DIOCESAN YOUTH DAY** "Seen + Sent" is a formation day for young people by the Department for Adult Education and Evangelisation. We invite any 14-17 year olds (Year 10-12) to come join us at St Johns Parish Hall in Trowbridge on 18 November from 10am – 4pm for an opportunity to personally encounter Christ in, through, and with those around them. To register, or to ask questions, please email [youth@cliftondiocese.com](mailto:youth@cliftondiocese.com) or call the Department of Adult Education and Evangelisation between 8:30 and 16:30 at 0117 902 5595.

### **200 CLUB: OCTOBER WINNERS**

1st: Midie Macdonald £40, 2nd: Phil Durcan £30, 3rd: Jamie Whitney £20

## RED BOXES DURSLEY & NYMPFIELD

1. Please will anyone who did not return their box for emptying in September please do so by 12<sup>th</sup> December, as the office at Missio likes to have all monies for the year banked by the end of December. Thank you. *Mary Cryan*.
2. Red box holders in Nympsfield have to the end of the month to get their boxes in for counting and banks for the same reason!

**SOUP LUNCH/GETTING TO KNOW YOU (GTKU)** Sunday 12 November after the Blessing of Graves, in the Parish Hall (in lieu of the Café Dominic). Tickets are £10 each - on sale after Mass. There will be a selection of soups and puddings. All proceeds to the Parish's charity, *5<sup>th</sup> Gospel Christians*. We can never be complacent and think we know everyone in the two parishes. There are new folk all the time, faces to whom we can put no names and folks returning after a period away. Togetherness has to be worked at! This lunch is an easy way to do just that!!

## LOOKING AHEAD

- Christmas cards will be on sale each Sunday together with other items on the repository - candles, cards, Mass cards etc.
- GTLY Soup Lunch Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> November
- Christ the King Sunday 25<sup>th</sup>/26<sup>th</sup> November, last Sunday of the Church's liturgical year.
- Christmas Fair 3<sup>rd</sup> December – ADVENT SUNDAY – Start of the new church year, Lectionary Year B
- "Open House" Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> December at John and Louisa Rubin's home. £2 entrance
- Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> December Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the BVM
- Oriana Singer's Pre-Christmas Concert at St Dominic's, Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> December



**FATHER PHILIP WRITES** Our prayers for the Faithful Departed in November are firmly rooted in several fundamental, Christian beliefs. The first of them is the Resurrection of the Saviour. Because He lives, we know that human beings survive death and are therefore to be prayed for, just like the living. Furthermore, we believe in the Communion of Saints. God knits together His chosen ones with Himself and with each other. We remain connected, even when loved ones are out of sight. As the Saints and the Holy Souls pray for us, we pray for the Church Expectant in Purgatory and with the Church Triumphant in heaven. Prayers and Masses for the Dead are not only deeply traditional, but also practical, for they show our love and aid their passage to heaven. The Blessing of Graves at All Souls-tide is a part of this.

In the years following the carnage of World War I, many of our fellow Christians, who had previously been reluctant to pray for the Dead, re-discovered the value and practice of intercession for the Departed. The classic Remembrance words, "Remember before God" are, for Christians and other people of faith, an invitation to prayer. Those without, are left free to use the Silence as they wish and remember as they see fit.

### **Our Parish**

PLEASE PRAY for those who have recently died:

Gerald Lockier, Fr. Donal Daly

### **Diocesan Prayer Link:**

St Stanislaus, Dulverton Sacred Heart, Minehead

### **Churches Together**

### **Parish Prayer Rota:**

Our altar servers